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ABSTRACT

This book examines the influences of governmental regulation on the behavior of higher education institutions in several nations with respect to designing and implementing innovations in curricula. Part I contains theoretical and empirical analyses in four chapters while Part II presents case studies of three nations, the Netherlands, West Germany and France. Chapter One of Part I describes two basic general governmental strategies (rational planning and control versus self regulation) and an inventory of the various instruments a government may use to influence society. Chapter Two addresses the subject of innovations in higher education through an analysis of the literature on the subject. In Chapter Three recent developments in government regulation of higher education in Western industrialized countries, in particular governmental approaches to the process of curriculum development in higher education, are discussed. Chapter Four contains the conclusions which are drawn from the three case-studies with the general lines of the earlier chapter brought together to confront the theoretical analyses with recent empirical experiences. Part II contains the three case studies on government and curriculum innovation. The book contains an index and a bibliography of over 150 references. (JB)

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